

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-29 (cancelled).

30 (new). A method for treating female sexual dysfunction comprising the step of delivering to a female suffering from female sexual dysfunction a therapeutically effective amount of a neutral endopeptidase inhibitor, wherein said inhibitor is optionally admixed with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, diluent or excipient.

31 (new). The method according to claim 30 wherein the inhibitor has a selective effect on the genitalia of said female.

32 (new). The method according to claim 30 wherein in the absence of sexual stimulation the inhibitor has no or a negligible effect in causing an increase in genital blood flow in said female.

33 (new). The method according to claim 30 wherein said neutral endopeptidase inhibitor is a mediator of genital vasorelaxation.

34 (new). The method according to Claim 30 wherein said neutral endopeptidase inhibitor is a mediator of vaginal or clitoral vasorelaxation.

35 (new). The method according to Claim 30 wherein said neutral endopeptidase inhibitor is delivered before or during sexual stimulation.

36 (new). The method according to claim 30 wherein said inhibitor is delivered orally.

37 (new). The method according to claim 30 wherein said amount of neutral endopeptidase inhibitor delivered causes potentiation of cAMP.

38 (new). The method according to claim 37 wherein said cAMP is endogenous cAMP.

39 (new). The method according to claim 30 wherein the inhibitor has a K_i value of less than about 100 nM.

40 (new). The method according to claim 30 wherein the inhibitor has a K_i value of less than about 75 nM.

41 (new). The method according to claim 30 wherein the inhibitor has a K_i value of less than about 50 nM.

42 (new). The method according to claim 30 wherein the inhibitor has a K_i value of less than about 25 nM.

43 (new). The method according to claim 30 wherein the inhibitor has a K_i value of less than about 20 nM.

44 (new). The method according to claim 30 wherein the inhibitor has a K_i value of less than about 15 nM.

45 (new). The method according to claim 30 wherein the inhibitor has a K_i value of less than about 10 nM.

46 (new). The method according to claim 30 wherein the inhibitor has a K_i value of less than about 5 nM.

47 (new). The method according to claim 30 wherein said inhibitor is delivered in combination with one or more other pharmaceutically active agents.

48 (new). A method for treating female sexual arousal disorder comprising the step of orally delivering to a female suffering from female sexual arousal disorder a therapeutically effective amount of a neutral endopeptidase inhibitor, wherein said inhibitor is optionally admixed with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, diluent or excipient.

49 (new). The method according to claim 48 wherein said inhibitor has a selective effect on the genitalia of said female.

50 (new). The method according to claim 48 wherein in the absence of sexual stimulation said inhibitor has no or a negligible effect in causing an increase in genital blood flow in said female.

51 (new). The method according to claim 48 wherein said neutral endopeptidase inhibitor is a mediator of genital vasorelaxation.

52 (new). The method according to Claim 48 wherein said neutral endopeptidase inhibitor is a mediator of vaginal or clitoral vasorelaxation.

53 (new). The method according to claim 48 wherein said neutral endopeptidase inhibitor is administered orally.

54 (new). The method according to Claim 48 wherein said neutral endopeptidase inhibitor is delivered before or during sexual stimulation.

55 (new). The method according to claim 48 wherein said amount of inhibitor causes potentiation of cAMP in the genitalia of said female.

56 (new). The method according to claim 55 where said cAMP is endogenous cAMP.

57 (new). The method according to claim 48 wherein said inhibitor has a K_i value of less than about 100 nM.

58 (new). The method according to claim 48 wherein said inhibitor has a K_i value of less than about 75 nM.

59 (new). The method according to claim 48 wherein said inhibitor has a K_i value of less than about 50 nM.

60 (new). The method according to claim 48 wherein said inhibitor has a K_i value of less than about 25 nM.

61 (new). The method according to claim 48 wherein said inhibitor has a K_i value of less than about 20 nM.

62 (new). The method according to claim 48 wherein said inhibitor has a K_i value of less than about 15 nM.

63 (new). The method according to claim 48 wherein said inhibitor has a K_i value of less than about 10 nM.

64 (new). The method according to claim 48 wherein said inhibitor has a K_i value of less than about 5 nM.

65 (new). The method according to claim 48 wherein said inhibitor is delivered in combination with one or more other pharmaceutically active agents.